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for animals. I think that we should have at least as high of standards for children. And especially in light of everything that's coming out, that reinforces that if you do the right things with children when they're young, it's going to impact their lives throughout the rest of the time that they're here. And we can cut down on our costs for juvenile incarceration, we can cut down on all kinds of societal costs, by making sure that what happens to children when they're young is the right kind of thing. And so this is something that I think is important. think it's something that we want to do. Certainly it has been a recommendation from every major national group. recommendation from the Governor's interagency coordinating committee on early childhood. I think that it is the right And I think that the reason that we're not hearing from some of the practitioners in the filed, is because they're already doing this and more, and they just assume that that's the way it should be. And so I believe it's a good bill. very good bill. And I would urge you to support it. I will let you know that I do not intend to bring the...this to a vote on Final Reading this year. We have...we're in a position of having pretty much the pie put together, in terms of spending. And I don't think that we're ready to have this addition for this year. But I want the bill to be in a position next year, that we can ... we can deal with it early. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members. I'm like Senator Tyson, I had to get my file out and look some of these things over. And I recall now that I was at a meeting in Senator Don Pederson's district when I met with a group of child-care providers and what they had told me still stands, and that's that the basic question is, does increasing requirements assure better child-care situation? And their answer was, additional hours was not going to make any difference. There's still going to be child-care providers that set their kids in front of a TV and say that's fine. The 12 hours now they're saying, was adequate. Any additional 12 hours would be duplicative, and so on, et cetera. And I'm not going to drag this on much longer. We'll see where the bill goes, but I consider beating a dead horse. And I had a Page...I don't use